

## REMARKS

This application is involved in Interference No. 104,154, which is currently pending. Schneider et al.'s assignee, Bracco International B.V., has also sought to add this application to Interference No. 103,881, which is also currently pending.

Claims 68 and 74 were amended to make them correct dependent claims. Support for the amendments to claims 68 and 74 is found throughout the Applicants' specification and the claims as first filed (e.g., claim 1). For example, use of gases that are "freons" is disclosed on pages 9 and 15 ("physiologically acceptable gases like . . . freon . . ."), which are known fluorine-containing gases which include perfluorinated hydrocarbons.

The Applicants believe that these claims are patentable because they meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, as shown supra, and the Applicants are not aware of any prior art that would invalidate them. To Applicants' knowledge, no single prior art reference contains all of the elements of the claims and no combination of references would provide the claimed invention.

Early and favorable action on the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Arthur R. Crawford  
Reg. No. 25,327

1100 North Glebe Road 8th floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100